

Amendments To The Claims:

Please amend the claims as shown.

1 – 13 (canceled)

14. (new) A gas turbine engine for power generation, comprising:
a rotationally mounted rotor having a longitudinal axis;
an axial compressor arranged coaxially along a rotor that produces a compressed intake fluid flow;
a combustion chamber arranged downstream of the compressor which receives the fluid flow and a fuel, and combusts the fluid flow and the fuel to form a hot working medium;
an annular diffuser for diverting the fluid flow having an outer wall and an inner wall arranged coaxially along the longitudinal axis between the axial compressor and the combustion chamber;
an annular distribution element arranged coaxially along the longitudinal axis of the rotor and between the inner and outer walls of the diffuser having an opening which faces the fluid flow in order to create a part-stream of the fluid flow, the distribution element opening arranged on the leading edge of the distribution element and forming an annular opening in a central region between the outer wall and the inner wall; and

15. (new) The gas turbine as claimed in claim 14, wherein the diffuser further comprises a plurality of hollow supporting elements arranged between the inner and outer walls of the diffuser and the annular distribution element.

16. (new) The gas turbine as claimed in claim 14, wherein the annular gap opening is segmented along the circumference of the annular distribution element.

17. (new) The gas turbine as claimed in claim 14, wherein the inner and outer walls of the diffuser diverge along the direction of flow upstream of the distribution element.

18. (new) The gas turbine as claimed in claim 14, wherein the annular distribution element is arranged centrally between the two diverging walls of the diffuser and has a wedge shape defined by two walls such that each distribution element wall and the adjacent diffuser wall form two annular part-passages for the fluid.
19. (new) The gas turbine as claimed in claim 18, wherein the two part-passages have a constant cross section over the flow length of the two part-passages.
20. (new) The gas turbine as claimed in claim 15, wherein the hollow supporting elements route the cooling fluid through a interior of the hollow supporting elements and are supported against the diffuser inner wall.
21. (new) The gas turbine as claimed in claim 14, wherein the part-stream is routed toward the rotor by the inner supporting elements.
22. (new) The gas turbine as claimed in claim 14, wherein a cavity in the supporting element is connected to an annular passage located radially inward of the diffuser inner wall.
23. (new) The gas turbine as claimed in claim 14, wherein the fluid is compressor air.
24. (new) The gas turbine as claimed in claim 14, wherein a tube extends through the cavity in the outer supporting elements and is connected to a nozzle located downstream of the distribution element opening, the nozzle adapted to inject a cooling fluid into the part-stream fluid flow to evaporatively cool the part-stream flow.
25. (new) The gas turbine as claimed in claim 14, wherein a fuel supply tube extends through the cavity in the outer supporting elements and is connected to a passage in the distribution element that connects with the radially inner part-passage so a fuel can be introduced into the part-passage.
26. (new) The gas turbine as claimed in claim 25, wherein the liquid is water.

27. (new) The gas turbine as claimed in claim 14, wherein the compressed intake fluid flow is gaseous.

28. A diffuser for a gas turbine for power generation, comprising:
an inner wall forming a radially inner side of the diffuser;
an outer wall forming a radially outer side of the diffuser that provides a flow passage having an inlet and an outlet where the inner and outer walls increasingly diverge along the direction of fluid flow;
an annular distribution element arranged coaxially along a longitudinal axis and between the inner and outer walls of the diffuser having an opening in order to create a part-stream of a compressor discharge fluid flow, the distribution element opening arranged on a leading edge of the distribution element and forming an annular opening in a central region between the outer wall and the inner wall; and
a plurality of hollow supporting elements arranged between the inner and outer walls of the diffuser and the annular distribution element.

29. (new) The diffuser as claimed in claim 28, wherein the distribution element creates a radially outward and a radially inward streams along with the part stream.

30. (new) The diffuser as claimed in claim 28, wherein a tube with a nozzle is routed through a hollow outer supporting element and the nozzle is located inward of the annular opening of the distribution element for injecting a cooling fluid.

31. (new) The diffuser as claimed in claim 28, wherein a fuel supply tube extends through a hollow outer supporting element and is connected to a passage in the distribution element that connects with the radially inner part-passage so a fuel can be introduced into the part-passage.